

Message Text

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17

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SAM-01 IO-10 PM-03

INR-07 L-02 ACDA-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 /067 W

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O R 041133Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1616

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

USNMR SHAPE BRUSSELS BEL

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON ENG

COMSIXTHFLT GAETA IT

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MOPS, PO

SUBJ: PORTUGUESE CHIEFS OF STAFF SUPPORT "LOCKED GATE"

REF: (A) LISBON 553; (B) LISBON 626 (NOTAL)

1. GENERAL STAFF OF PORTUGUESE ARMED FORCES ISSUED STRONG PRESS
COMMUNIQUE AFTERNOON FEBRUARY 3 CLARIFYING FOR BENEFIT OF PUBLIC
OPINION FACT AHT"LOCKED GATE" NATO EXERCISE IN NO WAY LINKED
TO PRESENT INTERNAL SITUATION IN PORTUGAL.

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2. COMMUNIQUE REITERATED THAT THIS EXERCISE PLANNED TWO YEARS

AGO AND IS NORMAL NATO ACTIVITY WHICH AGREED TO BY PORTUGUESE MILITARY AUTHORITIES. PORTUGUESE FORCES ALSO PARTICIPATING ALONG WITH OTHER NATIONS IN WHAT ESSENTIALLY AN ANTI-SUBMARINE EXERCISE.

3. AMERICAN CARRIER SARATOGA, WHICH PARTICIPATING IN MANEUVERS, SIMULTANEOUSLY ASKED FOR AND GIVEN PERMISSION TO USE TARGET RANGE IN ALOCHETE FOR TRAINING, NOTES MILITARY STATEMENT.

4. IN CONCLUSION, COMMUNIQUE ASSERTS THAT NO CONNECTION BETWEEN THIS EXERCISE AND NATIONAL POLITICAL SITUATION. ANY INTERPRETATION TO CONTRARY LABELED "COMPLETELY UNFOUNDED." CHIEF OF STAFF "VEHEMENTLY DISAPPROVES" OF SPECULATION MADE SO FAR ABOUT "LOCKED GATE" WHICH HAS SERVED ONLY TO "AGITATE" PUBLIC OPINION. PORTUGUESE ASKED TO COMBAT RUMORS REGARDING PURPOSE OF "LOCKED GATE" SPREAD BY THOSE WITH "ULTERIOR MOTIVES."

5. ATTEMPT BY INSIGNIFICANT FAR-LEFT GROUP TO HOLD STREET DEMONSTRATION AGAINST "LOCKED GATE" YESTERDAY (FEB 3) AFTERNOON FAILED TO GET OFF GROUND, FIZZLING OUT AT START. MAOIST MRPP GROUP TO HOLD INDOOR RALLY TOMORROW (FEB 5) IN LISBON SPORTS PAVILION AGAINST "SOVIET AND AMERICAN IMPERIALISM" AT WHICH "LOCKED GATE" LIKELY TO BE BROACHED.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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05 JUL 2006

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